

Boy chained for skipping school

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The 10-year-old boy fell unconscious after being chained at the neck to a gas tank.



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KUANTAN — A 10-year-old boy in Indera Mahkota here was allegedly chained to a gas cylinder by his father after he was found to have played truant.

Police found the boy naked, chained at the neck and unconscious at about 10am on Thursday after receiving a tip off from the public, said district police chief Assistant Commissioner of Police Abdul Aziz

Salleh yesterday.

“Our men knocked on the door but nobody answered. They then peered through the back window and saw the boy lying next to the gas cylinder.

“They had no choice but to break into the house to rescue him. A policeman tried to wake the boy before cutting him free.

“The boy had bruises on his body and probably fell unconscious because he was chained for about 45 minutes,” he said.

The boy was rushed to Tengku Ampuan Afzan Hospital and was reported to be in stable condition, Abdul Aziz said

He said the boy's father, who works at the Batu 10 army camp in Jalan Gambang, was arrested when he returned to the house soon

after the boy was freed.

The boy's mother was operating her stall at the time of the incident. She was also arrested but later released.

The case is being investigated for child abuse and neglect.

The couple, in their 30s, has four other children and the boy was their third child.

“The father admitted he did that because the boy was stubborn. He claimed the boy skipped school often and went to play computer games with his friends at a cyber cafe.

“We believe their other children were not abused and this was the first time the boy was chained. We are still investigating if the victim had been physically abused in the past,” he said.